

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 HA-05 OIC-02 AID-05 IOE-00  
/083 W

-----047618 182025Z /43

P R 181830Z JAN 78  
FM USINT HAVANA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0979  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 0160

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, UNHRC, CU  
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH CUBANS ON PROPOSAL FOR UN HIGH  
COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: STATE 10992

1. USINT CHIEF DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE REFTEL JANUARY 18  
WITH MINREX ACTING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
AFFAIRS, JOSE LUIS PEREZ HERNANDEZ. PEREZ INDICATED THAT  
GOC IS STRONGLY DISPOSED AGAINST AND WILL PROBABLY VOTE AGAINST  
PROPOSAL TO CREATE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
ON GROUNDS THAT SUCH AN OFFICE WOULD DETRACT FROM (BY DISSIPATING)  
EXISTING AUTHORITY OF UNGA AND ECOSOC IN HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD.  
HE SAID THAT CUBA'S OBJECTIVE AT ALL TIMES IS TO STRENGTHEN  
THE UN, AND THAT MOST PROPOSALS FOR NEW ORGANIZATIONAL  
ELEMENTS (LIKE THIS ONE) HAVE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT.

2. PEREZ WENT ON TO SAY THAT CREATION OF THIS OFFICE WOULD  
HAVE FURTHER DEBILITATING EFFECT ON UN BECAUSE OF ITS  
CONTROVERSIAL CHARACTER, I.E., THE OPPOSITION OF MANY COUNTRIES  
(SPOKEN OR UNSPOKEN) TO WHAT THEY WOULD VIEW AS THREAT OF  
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INTERVENTION IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS BY THE UN HIGH  
COMMISSIONER. (WHILE REPEATING USUAL GOC ARGUMENT THAT  
CUBA ITSELF HAS NOTHING TO FEAR BECAUSE IT DOES NOT VIOLATE  
HUMAN RIGHTS, PEREZ ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT UNDER CUBA'S LONG-  
STANDING POLICY AGAINST FORMAL INVESTIGATIONS BY OUTSIDE BODIES, IT  
WOULD NOT ADMIT AN INVESTIGATING TEAM FROM SUCH A UN OFFICE.)

3. ACCORDING TO PEREZ, CUBA DOUBTS THAT SUBJECT PROPOSAL WILL  
COMMAND MAJORITY SUPPORT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OR  
UNGA. NEVERTHELESS, HE STOPPED SHORT OF SAYING THAT GOC  
HAS FINALLY DETERMINED TO OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL. HE SAID THAT CUBA  
WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE DEBATE IN GENEVA IN A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER,  
OPEN TO ALL VIEWS AS TO THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF PROMOTING  
HUMAN RIGHTS OBJECTIVES. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT CUBAN  
DELEGATION WILL WELCOME CONSULTATIONS WITH US DEL.  
LANE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978HAVANA00160  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 10992  
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**Subject:** CONSULTATIONS WITH CUBANS ON PROPOSAL FOR UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PORC, CU, UNHRC  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014